

their community, Vicksburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

The Vicksburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. has served the Warren County community and the State of Mississippi through informational meetings, social and civic engagement.

The idea of an alumnae chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., in Vicksburg, Mississippi, was realized in February 1976 when Maggie Walker and Gloria Hebron discussed the possibility of becoming active in a nearby alumnae chapter. While developing a list of potential members to accompany them, they asked themselves, "Why join another Chapter when there are at least 15 to 20 inactive members in our city?" With this in mind, they contacted National Headquarters, requested an application for a charter, and sent out a call for inactive Deltas to come forward to serve our city and local communities.

The Vicksburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., was chartered by 14 of the 18 Deltas who came forth when on Saturday evening, November 6, 1976, then Southern Regional Director and future 19th National President Yvonne Kennedy installed them into the Vicksburg Alumnae Chapter. This event took place at the Holiday Inn, on Clay Street, in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

The Vicksburg Alumnae Chapter boasts 83 members for the 2013–2014 sororal year. All are registered voters and hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree.

Vicksburg Alumnae Chapter members actively participate in Vicksburg and surrounding communities through annual blood drives; walk-a-thons; HIV/AIDS awareness programs; Habitat for Humanity; refurbished and maintain The Delta Room at Mountain of Faith Ministries Women's Shelter; youth educational scholarships, mentoring, and ACT workshops; financial management workshops; cultural

awareness programs, including Jabberwock; educational forums; and meet the candidates political awareness forums.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Vicksburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for its dedication to serving others and giving back to the community.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. GLORIA NEGRETE MCLEOD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 2014*

Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD. Mr. Speaker, from March 5, 2014 to June 10, 2014, I was unavoidably absent from the House and missed rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Roll	Vote	Roll	Vote	Roll	Vote	Roll	Vote	Roll	Vote
93	Nay	103	Aye	113	Nay	281	Nay	291	Nay
94	Nay	104	Aye	114	Aye	282	Nay	292	Nay
95	Aye	105	Aye	191	Aye	283	Nay	293	Aye
96	Aye	106	Nay	192	Aye	284	Nay	294	Nay
97	Nay	107	Nay	193	Aye	285	Nay	295	Nay
98	Aye	108	Aye	276	Nay	286	Nay	296	Aye
99	Nay	109	Nay	277	Aye	287	Aye	297	Nay
100	Nay	110	Aye	278	Nay	288	Nay		
101	Nay	111	Aye	279	Nay	289	Nay		
102	Aye	112	Aye	280	Nay	290	Nay		

#### TONY GWYNN: A MAN OF UNRIVALED SKILL AND EXEMPLARY CHARACTER

#### HON. SCOTT H. PETERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 2014*

Mr. PETERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I, along with my fellow members of the San Diego Delegation including Representative DAVIS, Representative ISSA, Representative HUNTER, and Representative VARGAS, rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Tony Gwynn, a celebrated batting champion in the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame and beloved San Diego Padre. For over 30 years, Tony's enthusiasm for baseball and life itself was a source of goodwill for our national pastime and for all San Diegans. He will be sorely missed by the many people he inspired to play the game and by the many lives he touched on and off the baseball diamond.

Tony Gwynn was a baseball legend. The 15-time All-Star led the Padres to two World Series appearances. In his career, he accumulated 3,141 hits over 20 seasons, earning a career batting average of .338, the highest since Ted Williams. He also received a record-tying eight National League batting titles in addition to winning five Gold Glove Awards in recognition of his defensive skills. Gwynn was elected to the Hall of Fame in 2007, his first year of eligibility.

Gwynn's dedication to the sport was only matched by his remarkable character and his love for San Diego, earning him the nickname, "Mr. Padre." While Gwynn had the option to play elsewhere, he loyally spent his entire career in San Diego. Following his time as a player, he remained in San Diego to dedicate the remainder of his life to coaching at his alma mater, San Diego State University. A role model to many, Gwynn focused more on

brightening the lives of others than on pursuing fame and fortune for himself. He is remembered for his kindness and generosity as well as for his infectious laugh.

Mr. Speaker, it is with the utmost respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to the life of Tony Gwynn, an outstanding athlete and exemplary citizen, friend, and family man. His love of the game, tireless dedication, genial attitude, and uplifting presence will be missed.

#### HONORING REVEREND DR. CURTIS L. LESTER

#### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 2014*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, Reverend Dr. Curtis L. Lester has celebrated forty (40) years in pastoral leadership this year and has provided stellar leadership to his church; and

Whereas, Reverend Dr. Curtis L. Lester under the guidance of God has pioneered and sustained Greater Bethany Missionary Baptist Church as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Reverend Dr. Lester is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared not only with his Church, but with our community and the nation his passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this

day to honor and recognize Reverend Dr. Curtis L. Lester as he celebrates forty years in pastoral leadership; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim June 8, 2014 as Reverend Dr. Curtis L. Lester Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 8th day of June, 2014.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 2014*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,585,699,982,065.80. We've added \$6,958,822,933,152.72 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

#### HONORING CITY OF CANTON, MISSISSIPPI

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Canton, Mississippi.

Madison County, the 23rd county in Mississippi, was named for the fourth President, James Madison, and was created in 1828 out of Yazoo and Hinds Counties. It incorporates lands between the Pearl and Big Black Rivers